

Whether Johnston Drummond could have collected the type specimen at these more southerly localities remains conjecture. However it is unlikely because such localities were well removed from routes between Toodyay and the Moore River in the 1840s.

James Drummond wrote that it was a true flower of mourning – as a tribute to Mrs Molloy's death in 1842. The death of Johnston Drummond, the collector of the plant, would have given it deeper significance when his father mourned his death in 1845.

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**A Record of a Blind Snake, *Ramphotyphlops pinguis* on the Swan Coastal Plain, Perth, Western Australia** – The endemic Western Australian blind snake *Ramphotyphlops pinguis* (Waite 1897) is one of three species recorded from the Perth region, and is considered absent from the Swan Coastal Plain (Bush *et al.* 1995). Storr *et al.* (2002) also notes that all records are from localities on the raised plateau, reflecting a preference for heavier soils and How and Dell (1993) also state that *R. pinguis* is

one of four snakes known from the greater Perth metropolitan area which is either totally or principally restricted to the Darling Scarp or Plateau.

On 11 February 2004 at 2135 hr, I collected an active blind snake on the Old Yanchep Road at Carabooda 31°34'03"S 115°42'41"E, approximately 45 kilometres north of Perth. The air temperature was estimated to be between 19–21°C with a slight wind. The yellowish soil at the collection site is indicative of the Spearwood Dune system, and supported a mixed *Banksia attenuata* woodland with emergent *Banksia grandis* over *Dryandra sessilis*, *Xanthorrhoea preissii* and *Hakea* sp. Considering the location on the Swan Coastal Plain, I expected the blind snake to be *R. australis*, which is commonly found throughout the Perth region (pers. obs.).

Upon closer examination in the hand, I noticed the blind snake had a stout body, dark body colouration and a slightly angular snout that are diagnostic characters for *R. pinguis* (Storr *et al.* 2002). I collected and lodged this specimen (R125664) at the WA Museum, where its identification was determined to be an adult male *R. pinguis* (snout-vent length: 276mm, tail length: 13mm, weight: 17.2g).

Geographical proximity to the nearest Western Australian Museum records of *R. pinguis* on the coastal plain include specimens from Forrestfield (R82627), Kalamunda (R29754)

and Darlington (R11326) which support the preference this species has for heavier soils. Recent surveys conducted on the Swan Coastal Plain and the Darling Plateau and Scarp did not record *R. pinguis* (How and Dell, 1994, 2000). The collection of *R. pinguis* on the Swan Coastal Plain represents an interesting distributional record in light of the available herpetofauna survey information and highlights the fact that our knowledge of the fossorial herpetofauna of even the 'well collected' parts of Australia is far from complete. It is also interesting to note that similar to *R. pinguis*, the gecko *Diplodactylus polyophthalmus* and skink *Ctenotus labillardieri* that are more commonly found on the Darling Plateau and Scarp have outlying populations on the Swan Coastal Plain.

#### REFERENCES

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A range extension for *Lerista lineopunctulata* and a second record of *Lerista lineata*, near Yalgorup, Western Australia - In the vicinity of Yalgorup National Park (near Lake Clifton) we captured a specimen of a skink, identified as *Lerista lineopunctulata*, on 19 December 2002. The single individual was captured in a stand of the coastal mallee *Eucalyptus argutifolia* (32°47'40"S, 115°38'53"E) situated partially upslope on a limestone outcrop in a coastal dune system. The locality was characterised by sandy soil with light leaf litter and occasional limestone outcroppings. The snout-vent length and total length of the captured individual were 78 mm and 142 mm, respectively.

The specimen was lodged with Mr Brad Maryan of the WA